

WEEK 6



Minister to Others

This Week's Goal

You will minister to others as you take up your cross and follow Jesus.

My Walk with the Master This Week

You will complete the following activities to develop the six biblical disciplines. When you have completed each activity, draw a vertical line in the diamond beside it.

**SPEND TIME WITH THE MASTER**

- ◇ Have a daily quiet time. Check the box beside each day you have a quiet time this week: Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

**LIVE IN THE WORD**

- ◇ Read your Bible every day. Write what God says to you and what you say to God.
- ◇ Memorize John 15:13.
- ◇ Review Luke 9:23, John 15:5, John 8:31-32, John 15:7, John 13:34-35, and John 15:8.

**PRAY IN FAITH**

- ◇ Pray for your pastor and your church.
- ◇ Pray for the lost persons the group members talked about at the previous session.
- ◇ Ask God to lead you as you plan your time with Him, using the MasterTime form.

**FELLOWSHIP WITH BELIEVERS**

- ◇ Share with someone what the Lord has done for you since you have been involved in *MasterLife*.

**WITNESS TO THE WORLD**

- ◇ Use MasterTime to plan your days.
- ◇ Do a kind act for your new non-Christian friend this week. Learn all you can about your new friend. Be ready to tell your *MasterLife* group what happened.

**MINISTER TO OTHERS**

- ◇ Finish learning the Disciple's Cross. Be ready to share it with a member of your *MasterLife* group before the Growing Disciples Workshop. Say all of the verses that go with the Disciple's Cross.

This Week's Scripture-Memory Verse

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends"
(John 15:13).



Since review helps you memorize, go back and work on this week's Scripture-memory verse. Choose one of the suggestions you read and practice it to reinforce your memorization of John 15:8.



If you have not already done so, write the verses you are memorizing in *MasterLife 1: The Disciple's Cross* on cards that you can carry with you. Review them often.

HAS THIS WEEK MADE A DIFFERENCE?

Review "My Walk with the Master This Week" at the beginning of this week's material. Mark the activities you have finished by drawing vertical lines in the diamonds beside them. Finish any incomplete activities. Think about what you will say during your group session about your work on these activities.

Think about your study of "Witness to the World" this week.

- Have you resolved to work on developing new relationships with persons who do not know Christ?
- Have your relationships with non-Christian friends taken on new meaning because of this week's study?
- Have you identified opportunities to witness that you had not thought about previously?
- Have you committed to bear fruit in a new way?

I hope that this week's study has prompted you to make new commitments in your continuing effort to abide in Christ and to develop your lifelong, obedient relationship with Him. Making new commitments requires honesty, because you may realize that you need to make improvements in your life. Look on these as opportunities to grow rather than judging your old ways of doing things.

**Making new commitments
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improvements in your life.**

1. Adapted from Chuck Kelley, *Learning to Share My Faith* (Nashville: LifeWay Press, 1994), 27-34.

2. Paul Eshleman, *The Touch of Jesus* (Orlando: NewLife, 1995), 157-58.

DAY 1



Take Up Your Cross

A group of people rushed into the room where my friend, a Christian relief worker in central Asia, was ministering. They pleaded, "Please come help this old man, or he will die!" In the war-torn area of the country where my friend served, mine fields were plentiful. The concerned individuals who pressed him to help had found a shepherd injured by a mine. My friend knew that he must quickly decide what to do. "I knew it was not wise to enter a mine field, but I felt that the Lord wanted me to help this person in need," my friend recalled. "As I crossed the field, I noticed that everyone following me was walking single file in my footsteps."

My friend at last located the man, carried him to the road, and hailed a truck. He begged the truck driver to carry the injured shepherd to a hospital, but no occupant of the crowded vehicle would give up his place. To a worker who spoke English my friend said, "Tell the truck driver that I will pay twice what any rider paid if you will take this man to the hospital." The worker, in translating to the truck driver, commented, "This Christian is going to pay the man's way when we Muslims won't do anything." At that point the truck driver refused the money and made a place for the injured man.

In this central-Asian country where Christianity is not accepted, this modern-day Good Samaritan story spread all over the countryside with the message "This is what a Christian does. This is the kind of service a Christian does in Jesus' name."

WHAT A CHRISTIAN DOES

When Christ is at the center of your life, how do you serve others? What does being a disciple of Christ lead you to do? Although you may not serve as a relief worker in a war-torn country as my friend does, your opportunities for sacrificial service for others are endless.

Describe an occasion when you served someone sacrificially.

What opportunities for service do you have that you are not taking advantage of?

Your opportunities for sacrificial service for others are endless.

Every Christian is a minister if he or she follows Jesus and serves others as He did.

You probably identified someone in need or opportunities for sacrificial service in Jesus' name. The type of ministry we are examining does not mean being a pastor or another church minister. Every Christian is a minister if he or she follows Jesus and serves others as He did.

BEARING YOUR CROSS

To learn how a disciple ministers to others, start by reviewing one of your first memory verses, Luke 9:23, in which Jesus outlined the three basic commitments of a disciple.



Complete Luke 9:23 below by filling in the blanks. Then say this verse from memory.

“If anyone would come after me, he must _____ himself and take up his _____ daily and _____ me.”

The three basic commitments a disciple makes are to deny self, take up his or her cross, and follow Christ. In week 1 when you learned about putting Christ at the center of your life, you focused on self-denial. In week 5 when you learned about witnessing to the world and reproducing believers, you focused on Christ's command to follow Him. This week you will focus on the commitment to cross bearing.

For Jesus, the cross meant that He gave Himself to redeem the world. For believers, cross bearing is voluntary, redemptive, sacrificial service for others. You enter His ministry by taking up your cross.

“I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds” (John 12:24).

“Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:27).

“Being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!” (Phil. 2:8).

Read John 12:24 in the margin. Check the statement that best explains Jesus' comparison.

- 1. Death to the old way of life brings forth new life.
- 2. Dying to self means that you will probably live your life alone.

You must die to your old way of life before you can commit yourself to Christ. Self-denial emphasizes turning from commitment to self to commitment to Him. Taking up your cross involves turning with Christ to the world in need. The first result is a new vision of self; the second result is a new vision of the world's need. The correct answer is 1.

Read Luke 14:27 in the margin. What happens to a person who refuses to be a cross bearer?

If you refuse to be a cross bearer, you cannot be Jesus' disciple. To follow Christ, you must bear your cross.

In Philippians 2:8, in the margin, Paul explained why Jesus was willing to take up His cross. Jesus was obedient to God's will for His life even when it meant dying on a cross. We learn from Jesus' example

in cross bearing that a Christian's cross has two characteristics: (1) it is a voluntary commitment, and (2) it is an act of obedience.

If you fail to take up your cross, which of the following sins have you committed? disobedience disloyalty disbelief

Disloyalty and disbelief may be involved, but you are disobedient to Christ if you fail to take up your cross, because cross bearing is a direct command of Christ. Obeying Jesus' commands is the primary motive for taking up your cross. This week's Scripture-memory verse, John 15:13, states the value Jesus placed on sacrificial service to others.



Begin to memorize this week's Scripture-memory verse, John 15:13. Read it aloud. What did Jesus say that a disciple would be willing to do to demonstrate love for others?

Jesus said that a disciple ministers to others, even if you have to experience hardship or give your life.

LEARNING THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

The final addition to the cross will indicate how you relate to the world if you are Christ's disciple. If Christ is at the center of your life, you grow as His disciple through the discipline of ministering to others. As you grow in Christ, you reach out to others through service of all kinds. You bear Christ's cross even if it means experiencing difficulty.



Draw the Disciple's Cross over this picture of the world to show how a disciple reaches out to the world in witness and ministry. Label each part of the cross.



A disciple ministers to others, even if you have to experience hardship or give your life.

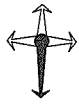
DAILY MASTER
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GUIDE



LUKE 10:26-35

What God said to me:

What I said to God:



Read Luke 10:26-35, a passage about someone who took up his cross for others, during your quiet time today. After you have read this passage, complete the Daily Master Communication Guide in the margin.

DAY 2



Ministry in Christ's Name

When I was the president of the Indonesian Baptist Theological Seminary, I hired a former lieutenant colonel in the Indonesian Army to manage the seminary property and the employees who took care of it. Although he had been a Christian for only about six months, he was very committed to the Lord. The problem was that he tried to manage the seminary property and employees as he would manage an army. Time after time I had to intervene to keep war from breaking out between the employees and this supervisor.

Praying for God's guidance, I decided to bear the cross and take on the difficulties required to disciple this man and to teach him to be an effective manager. Using the Scriptures, I taught him how to relate to his employees with patience, kindness, and self-control. This man effectively served at the seminary for more than 10 years.

Throughout your study of *MasterLife* you have learned six biblical disciplines of a follower of Christ. In these disciplines four resources can be identified that are available to every disciple:

- the Word
- prayer
- fellowship
- witness

A growing disciple uses these four resources to help others in Christ's name. Your service expresses itself in various ministries:

- 1. The Word leads to a ministry of teaching/preaching.**
2. Prayer leads to a ministry of worship/intercession.
3. Fellowship leads to a ministry of nurture.
4. Witness leads to a ministry of evangelism.
5. Fellowship and witness lead to a ministry of service.

A MINISTRY OF TEACHING/PREACHING

Look at the first ministry you will learn about, which appears in bold type in the box above. You may instantly think: *That lets me out. I'm not called to be a pastor. How can I minister this way?*

Preaching a sermon is certainly one way to minister by using the discipline of living in the Word. God definitely calls some people to be preachers or evangelists. If you live in the Word, you may learn that this role is His will for you. But you can be involved in the ministry of teaching or preaching even if you never proclaim the gospel in front of a congregation. Most people who stay in the Word long enough have the opportunity to share in a variety of contexts what God has said to them.

Recall my story about the lieutenant colonel at the seminary. How did I use the resource of the Word in the ministry of teaching or preaching?

I used the resource of the Word to teach this man how the Lord wanted him to relate to his employees. By sharing with him what the Word says about patience, kindness, and self-control as fruit of the Spirit, I helped him manage in a more Christ-honoring manner.

To understand how to use the resource of the Word in a ministry of teaching/preaching, you can look at ways teaching occurs in the Bible. Match the Scriptures in the margin with the following examples.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| ___ 1. Job 36:22 | a. God is a teaching God. Many prophets such as Samuel also functioned as teachers. |
| ___ 2. Matthew 28:19 | b. Parents are urged to tell their children about God's mighty acts and to instruct them in God's commandments. |
| ___ 3. Ephesians 6:4 | c. In Jesus' ministry, teaching was His primary identity. In the Great Commission Jesus commanded His followers to make disciples and to instruct them in His teachings. |
| ___ 4. 1 Timothy 5:17 | d. Whenever new churches were founded, Christian teachers were present. |

Today teaching is part of sharing your faith. To witness to the world, believers must first understand the gospel and then teach others. A person can be involved in a teaching ministry whether from the pulpit, in a classroom, in a small-group study, or one-to-one. The correct answers are 1. a, 2. c, 3. b, 4. d.

You can be involved in the ministry of teaching or preaching even if you never proclaim the gospel in front of a congregation.

"God is exalted in his power. Who is a teacher like him?" (Job 36:22).

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19).

"Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4).

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Tim. 5:17).

DAILY MASTER COMMUNICATION GUIDE



JOHN 17:6-19

What God said to me:

What I said to God:

Name ways you might be able to use the resource of the Word in a ministry of teaching or preaching.

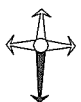
Do not feel concerned if ideas for ministry do not immediately occur to you. The goal is to open new possibilities for you as you begin considering your ministry as a follower of Christ.

Memorizing Scripture is one way you can begin to use the resource of the Word. When you hide God's Word in your heart, you have it at instant recall when you want to share about Christ or to give scriptural guidance or encouragement.



By now you have likely memorized six verses and are working on a seventh one. On a sheet of paper, see how accurately you can write each of the six by memory.

If you had difficulty writing any of the six verses, you may want to review "How to Memorize Scripture" in week 5.



Continue your work on this week's Scripture-memory verse, John 15:13. Say it aloud from one to three times. Ask a family member or someone you see each day if you can practice saying it aloud to him or her.

A MINISTRY OF WORSHIP/INTERCESSION

The ministry in bold type below is the next one you will study.

1. The Word leads to a ministry of teaching/preaching.
2. **Prayer leads to a ministry of worship/intercession.**
3. Fellowship leads to a ministry of nurture.
4. Witness leads to a ministry of evangelism.
5. Fellowship and witness lead to a ministry of service.

The more you get involved in prayer, the more you worship. Prayer is ministering before the Lord (see 1 Chron. 23:13). It is bowing before God and worshiping Him through praise, adoration, and devotion. Prayer enables you to develop a closer relationship with the Father. Intercession is a way you can minister to others by bringing their needs before God.

The ministry of worship can take the form of individual worship during your quiet time. But it goes beyond private prayer. You also worship as you fellowship with the body of Christ, gathered as His church. Worship as a church family has occurred since the time of the first Christians. Read the verses from Acts in the margin on the next page.

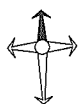
Again, you may think, *I'm not a minister or a church-staff member. How can I perform a ministry of worship?* The focus of true worship is on God and your personal relationship with Him. If you never lead others in worship, you can serve the Lord through worship. He waits for your worship. Worship is the primary way you glorify the Lord and is God's primary reason for creating and redeeming you (see 1 Pet. 2:9). The early church did not limit leadership in worship to professional ministers. Everyone has a responsibility for worship, whether God provides opportunities to lead groups in worship experiences or to participate in worship by following others' directions. We can also worship in our families as we minister to the persons closest to us. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9 in the margin.

As you learned in week 4, intercession is a disciple's ministry to bring to God the needs of the church and the world. Intercession can result in changed lives and changed churches. Staying alert to persons' needs and jotting down their concerns allow you to intercede for them as you pray individually or with others.

How do you think God wants you to use the resource of prayer in a ministry of worship and intercession?

You can start by interceding for believers who serve the Lord by spreading the gospel throughout the world. Pray for them as they witness to the world and as they lead others to witness. Become a prayer partner with them. Let them know that you are praying for them and that they can depend on your prayers. You may want to add the names of your pastor and other church-staff members to your Prayer-Covenant List and to pray for their specific needs.

Before I became a missionary, I heard many missionaries say that their greatest need was prayer, even more than finances. I made a commitment to God that before I began to serve as a missionary, I would enlist as many prayer partners as possible so that He could do more than I could do as a missionary. I enlisted about two thousand people to pray daily. Over the years that list grew to six thousand. I wrote to them every month to give them prayer requests and to report answers to prayer. I believe that God's work through us in Indonesia was a direct answer to those prayer partners' prayers. Think about what God could do through your pastor and church-staff members if you and others regularly prayed for them!

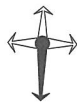


Stop now and pray for your pastor and church-staff members by name. Pray for the other members of your church who serve in the areas of teaching, prayer, outreach, benevolence,

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts" (Acts 2:42,46).

"These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (Deut. 6:6-9).

missions, music, and others. Ask God to bless each person as he or she ministers to others. Ask Him to help you think of ways you can support and demonstrate love for your church leaders.



Read John 17:6-19 during your quiet time today. Let God speak to you through this passage about Jesus' intercession for His disciples. After you have read this passage, complete the Daily Master Communication Guide on page 120.

DAY 3



More Ways to Minister

You have already studied two ministries and the resources that lead to their expression in the life of a disciple. Now you will learn a third, listed in bold type with its corresponding resource.

1. The Word leads to a ministry of teaching/preaching.
2. Prayer leads to a ministry of worship/intercession.
- 3. Fellowship leads to a ministry of nurture.**
4. Witness leads to a ministry of evangelism.
5. Fellowship and witness lead to a ministry of service.

“When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of John, do you truly love me more than these?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ he said, ‘you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Feed my lambs.’ Again Jesus said, ‘Simon, son of John, do you truly love me?’ He answered, ‘Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Take care of my sheep.’ The third time he said to him, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me?’ Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ He said, ‘Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said, ‘Feed my sheep.’” (John 21:15-17).

A MINISTRY OF NURTURE

Fellowshipping with believers eventually leads you to disciple new Christians. A normal outgrowth of being part of the body of Christ is taking care of spiritual infants and helping them grow into mature Christians. God gives some persons special gifts to counsel and train others in the various stages of spiritual growth. In the Bible this happens several times, as when Jesus saw Simon's potential and helped him grow into the rock called Peter (see John 21:15-17 in the margin). Barnabas encouraged the reluctant John Mark, who grew and later wrote one of the Gospels. Christ will show you Himself as you fellowship with other believers.

A ministry of nurture could involve—

- counseling new Christians at the time of decision;
- helping spiritual infants understand what it means to have life in Christ;
- leading a small group of disciples to know what following Christ means;
- serving on committees that see potential in members and recommending them for church offices;
- training leaders;

- teaching persons how to witness;
- counseling persons about their interpersonal needs.

In all situations nurture can involve role modeling, as Christ did with those He trained as His disciples. Others need examples of the Christian life that point them to Christ.

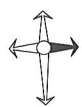
In the previous list, check the ways you already serve and draw a star beside the one(s) you think God might want you to do in a ministry of nurture.

Remember the definition of *discipleship* you learned earlier? Now read this definition of *disciplining*, or *making disciples*.

Disciplining is leading others to develop personal, lifelong, obedient relationships with Christ in which He transforms their character into Christlikeness, changes their values to Kingdom values, and involves them in His mission.

To carry out the Great Commission, you need to lead others into lifelong, obedient relationships with Jesus Christ. That is your responsibility. Then help them grow in their relationships with Him until He transforms them into His likeness and involves them in His mission. Every disciple is to help other disciples in the fellowship of believers grow.

Do you think you have been a role model for others during your study of *MasterLife*? Has anyone made a comment to you like “You seem to have changed since you began this study”? If so, perhaps this has occurred because of an increased understanding of what it means to live the Christian life. Maybe someone has observed you reaching out to nurture others as you have had fellowship with believers. Perhaps your family members have observed you having a quiet time. I hope that your lifestyle has changed to the point that new ways of thinking and behaving are obvious.



Tell someone how you have benefited from your study of *MasterLife*. Do this regardless of whether someone has commented about having observed changes in your life.

A MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM

The fourth ministry of a disciple appears in bold type below.

1. The Word leads to a ministry of teaching/preaching.
2. Prayer leads to a ministry of worship/intercession.
3. Fellowship leads to a ministry of nurture.
- 4. Witness leads to a ministry of evangelism.**
5. Fellowship and witness lead to a ministry of service.

Every disciple is to help other disciples in the fellowship of believers grow.

**All evangelism starts
with personal witness.**

The well-known evangelist D. L. Moody had a personal commitment that he would witness to someone every day of his life. Even if he had already gone to bed when he remembered that he had not witnessed that day, he would get up and tell someone about Christ.¹ The final resource you have for living the Christian life is the resource of witness. Many believers do not think of witness as a resource. However, nothing encourages Christians more than bearing witness, especially when they see someone accept Christ. From the resource of witness grows a ministry of evangelism. Various types of evangelism exist—film evangelism, relational evangelism, tracts, crusades—but all start with personal witness.

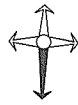
Evangelism is the proclamation of the good news of salvation in Christ. Our evangelism is a means the Holy Spirit uses to convert the lost. It is the way the Lord uses us to teach others about Himself. As a Christian, you do not persuade persons simply to make decisions. Rather, you tell them about Christ, call them to repentance, and give God the glory for what occurs.

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matt. 28:19).

Read the Great Commission, Matthew 28:19, in the margin. What does Christ say about your responsibility for evangelism?

The Great Commission calls you to use the resource of witness. Through the Great Commission Christ gave you the responsibility to share with others your knowledge of His love.

You may think: *How do I do this? I'm not a D. L. Moody. I'm not a Billy Graham. I don't have the abilities of a TV evangelist or someone who draws large crowds to tell about Christ.* Remember that D. L. Moody used the resource of witness to deal with one person at a time long before he became a preaching evangelist. Personal witness is a significant way to express the ministry of evangelism.



Write your memory verse, John 15:13, in the margin. Describe here what you think a person who is willing to give his or her life for a friend would do about witnessing.

You may have said that a person who would give everything for a friend would make sure that person has the gift of eternal life by witnessing to friends.


You can express this ministry of evangelism in a variety of ways:

- Lifestyle—living a Christian life that attracts a lost person’s attention and provides an opportunity for witness
- Small-group evangelism—participating in small groups of persons with similar interests to share the gospel of Christ
- Church evangelism—visiting homes, taking a religious census, or using other actions to ensure that every person in your church’s range of influence hears the gospel message
- Mass evangelism—helping your church gather people for a community-wide revival in a church building or a stadium
- Missions ministry—entering other cultures to tell others about Jesus as a career, short-term, or bivocational missionary or through giving and praying for missions causes
- Other: _____

In the previous list, check the ways you have already served and draw a star beside the one(s) you think God might want you to do in a ministry of evangelism.

At this point you may not know exactly how God intends for you to minister in this area. The purpose of these exercises is to encourage you to begin thinking of ways you can use the valuable resources that are yours as a disciple of Christ.

LEARNING THE DISCIPLE’S CROSS

 Again draw the Disciple’s Cross over the picture of the world. Then add pointed arrows to the ends of the cross-bars. At the ends of the pointed arrows write the ministry areas that go with each part of the cross: *ministry of teaching/preaching* below the cross, *ministry of worship/intercession* above the cross, *ministry of nurture* to the right of the cross, and *ministry of evangelism* to the left of the cross.



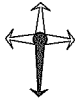
DAILY MASTER COMMUNICATION GUIDE



1 TIMOTHY 6:11-21

What God said to me:

What I said to God:



Read 1 Timothy 6:11-21 in your quiet time today. Let God speak to you through this passage about the way Paul nurtured Timothy. After you have read this passage, complete the Daily Master Communication Guide in the margin on page 125.

DAY 4



The Demands of Christ

Jesus did not always paint a rosy picture for the disciples as He talked about what was ahead for them. During His last days on earth Jesus outlined for His disciples what they could expect if they followed Him. Any suffering they would encounter for taking up His cross would be sorrow He had already known. In the verse in the margin He told them that the world would hate them because they were associated with Him and because they would witness in His name. Sometimes you may be inclined to skip over verses like John 15:18 because they indicate that life in Christ will be difficult. Read what an Argentine pastor says about this subject:

*“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first”
(John 15:18).*

The gospel which we have in the Bible is the gospel of the Kingdom of God. It presents Jesus as King, as Lord, as the maximum authority. Jesus is at the very center. The gospel of the Kingdom is a Christ-centered gospel.

But in recent centuries we have been hearing another gospel—a man-centered, human gospel. It is the gospel of the big offer. The gospel of the hot sale. The gospel of the irresistible special deal. ... We have told people, “If you accept Jesus, you will have joy, you will have peace, health, prosperity. ... If you give Jesus ten dollars, you will get twenty dollars back.” ... We are always appealing to man’s interests. Jesus is the Savior, the Healer, and the King coming for me. Me is the center of our gospel.

We take all the verses we like, all the verses that offer something or promise something—John 3:16, John 5:24, and so forth—and we make a systematic theology from these verses, while we forget the other verses that present the demands of Jesus Christ. ... Who said we were allowed to present only one side of Jesus? ... He is our Savior and our Healer, true. But we cannot cut Jesus Christ into pieces and take only the piece we like best.²

We cannot accept the part of Jesus’ message that we like and reject what we do not like. We must accept it all.

We cannot accept the part of Jesus’ message that we like and reject what we do not like. We must accept it all.

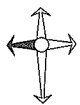
List commands Christ gave for disciples that you have ignored.

EXPECT TO BE REJECTED

The reality is, when you meet the demands of Christ as you minister to others, you may experience rejection. For example, did you feel rejection or sense a lack of openness to you as you began reaching out to your new non-Christian friend? Sometimes you may feel subtle rejection at first. Or you may initially sense that your friend would not be open to eventually learning about Christ.

One of my neighbors who was not a Christian began to play on the church softball team I played on. I tried to share my faith tactfully with him as we became better acquainted, but I never felt that he was ready to respond. I could not help feeling somewhat rejected when I continually sensed that he was not open to my witness.

One day as I was preparing to go overseas to lead *MasterLife* training, I sensed God leading me to talk to my neighbor before I left. That night my wife and I visited him and led him to Christ. Befriending him and regularly expressing concern for him eventually provided a witnessing opportunity. I was glad I had not become discouraged when at first I felt somewhat rejected.



This week do something kind for the non-Christian friend you made last week. Learn all you can about your new friend. Be ready to tell your *MasterLife* group what happened.

THE PROMISE OF HIS PRESENCE

After warning His disciples about the possibility of rejection, however, Jesus painted another picture designed to compel them to spread the good news fervently regardless of what they encountered. Read the verses in the margin.

Jesus reassured the disciples that they would have the Holy Spirit to assist them as they testified about Christ. He would not leave them without help or resources. The Holy Spirit would guide them as they moved out to serve others.

Two thousand years later, Jesus makes the same promise to you and gives you the same commands. As He sends you out to serve the world that He warns will hate you, He does not leave you without resources. He gives you the Holy Spirit to empower you and to make you bold.

When you meet the demands of Christ, you may experience rejection.

“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning” (John 15:26-27).



Pray for the lost persons whom group members mentioned in the previous session. You may have written their names on your Prayer-Covenant List or elsewhere. If you did not, you may want to add their names at the next group session. Continue praying that your fellow group members will live Christlike lives that will model Christ to others.

Your witness and your fellowship involve Christian service to other persons.

A MINISTRY OF SERVICE

Could a ministry of service be the ministry to which Christ calls you? Your witness and your fellowship involve Christian service to other persons. These compose the fifth ministry area to add to the four you have already studied.

1. The Word leads to a ministry of teaching/preaching.
2. Prayer leads to a ministry of worship/intercession.
3. Fellowship leads to a ministry of nurture.
4. Witness leads to a ministry of evangelism.
5. Fellowship and witness lead to a ministry of service.

John 15:13 says, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." You are to be involved in a ministry of service as Christ was.

LEARNING THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS



Draw the Disciple's Cross as you learned to do in day 3, with the cross over the world and with the pointed arrows on the crossbars. Label the ministry areas. Then write *ministry of service, John 15:13* above the horizontal crossbar. As you label it with the disciplines, ministries, and Scriptures that accompany it, explain it aloud. Be sure to say aloud all of the memory verses you recorded on it.



A Growing Disciples Workshop will conclude this study. At this workshop you will review what you have learned and will prepare to begin *MasterLife 2: The Disciple's Personality*. Before the workshop share the Disciple's Cross with a member of your group.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A DISCIPLE

You can learn an easy way to remember what you have studied in book 1 of *MasterLife*. Summarizing what it means to be a disciple is as simple as 1-2-3-4-5-6:

1 Lord as the first priority of your life

- The center of the cross emphasizes spending time with the Master.

2 relationships

- The vertical crossbar represents your relationship with God.
- The horizontal crossbar represents your relationship with others.

3 commitments

- Deny yourself
- Take up your cross
- Follow Christ

4 resources to center your life in Christ

- The Word
- Prayer
- Fellowship
- Witness

5 ministries that grow from the four resources

- Teaching/preaching
- Worship/intercession
- Nurture
- Evangelism
- Service

6 disciplines of a disciple

- Spend time with the Master
- Live in the Word
- Pray in faith
- Fellowship with believers
- Witness to the world
- Minister to others

To reinforce this 1-2-3-4-5-6 plan for discipleship, fill in the blanks that follow.

A disciple of Christ has—

1 _____.

1 Lord
2 relationships
3 commitments
4 resources
5 ministries
6 disciplines

DAILY MASTER COMMUNICATION GUIDE



JOHN 15

What God said to me:

Horizontal lines for writing responses to 'What God said to me:'

What I said to God:

Horizontal lines for writing responses to 'What I said to God:'

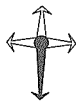
2 relationships: _____

3 commitments: _____

4 resources: _____

5 ministries: _____

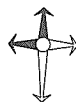
6 disciplines: _____



Again read John 15 in your quiet time today. This time look for ways God speaks to you through this passage about ministering to others. After you have read this passage, complete the Daily Master Communication Guide in the margin.

Are your daily quiet times making a difference in your life? Are you interceding for others? Are you gaining strength? Has your quiet time raised your entire walk with the Lord to a different level? If so, draw a star in the blank here: _____

Everything you have done in your study of MasterLife 1: The Disciple's Cross, including memorizing seven Scriptures and learning the Disciple's Cross, has required quite a time commitment. I pray that you have found this commitment worthwhile. I hope that by improving the use of your time through the MasterTime concept, you have found time to commit to tasks the Lord has in mind for you. I hope that the MasterTime form is becoming a regular part of your life.



Stop and pray, asking God to continue to lead you as you plan your time, using the MasterTime form. Be ready to share with your group how your planning has benefited from using MasterTime.

HAS THIS WEEK MADE A DIFFERENCE?

Review "My Walk with the Master This Week." Mark the activities you have finished and finish the ones you have not completed. Then look back through all of book 1. Finish any activities from previous weeks that you may not have completed. Consider what you will report during the Growing Disciples Workshop about what these activities have meant to you.

DAY 5



A Disciple Indeed

In 1983 I led *MasterLife* training in Kenya after almost being denied access to the country. Four years earlier when Communists had taken control of Ethiopia, they had banned worship in churches by ordering that no more than five persons could meet at any time without a permit. Naturally, the Communists did not grant permission for worship services. An Ethiopian Christian I met at the training said that many members of his eight-hundred-member church were in danger of leaving -their faith because circumstances were so difficult.

“Seven other men and I decided that we must do something to carry on the work,” he told me. They approached missionary veterinarian Jerry Bedsole, who was allowed to stay in Ethiopia because he took care of the animals at the palace. Jerry began to disciple these Ethiopian Christians secretly at his house, using *MasterLife*. Later, each man disciplined four persons. “We could not meet at the same place or time each week; we could not take Bibles to a meeting; and we had to pray with our eyes open, using conversational prayer, so that we would not be discovered,” the man said.

Because the Ethiopian Christians feared that the Communists would soon confiscate their Bibles, they devised a plan for each person to memorize a part of the Bible so that they could reproduce it. “I’m memorizing one of the Gospels,” he told me.

“Oh, yes, we know we will be put in jail. Some of us already have been, but the government doesn’t know what to do with us once we are behind bars. We witness and win the other prisoners, so they soon kick us out,” he said. Eventually, my friend began underground discipleship groups in 170 places around the country.

Several years later, after the Communists were overthrown, my Ethiopian friend was visiting Kenya when I returned there. This irrepressible man was still on fire for Christ—this time without an oppressive government to restrain him. He reported that the churches of Ethiopia had just purchased one hundred thousand sets of *MasterLife* to train Ethiopians to be disciples.

When the door seems to be closed, God can make a way for us to serve Him. Often, we must adjust our lives to follow Him in obedience.

What if you did not have a church in which to worship? What would you do if you could not sing praises to God? What if a government took away your Bible to prohibit your witness? Describe how you would stay connected to the Vine.

“We must do something to carry on the work.”

When the door seems to be closed, God can make a way for us to serve Him.

**The Disciple's Cross
represents your relationship
with Christ as His disciple.**

*"If a man cleanses himself
from the latter, he will be an
instrument for noble purposes,
made holy, useful to the Master
and prepared to do any good
work" (2 Tim. 2:21).*

I hope that as you have studied *MasterLife 1: The Disciple's Cross*, your relationship with Christ has become so important to you that you would bear your cross in any way possible to obey Christ.

LEARNING THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

The Disciple's Cross has been the basis for impromptu sermons, conversations, and witnessing opportunities by persons who learned it and mastered its concepts. I hope that for you, however, the cross represents something even greater. It represents your relationship with Christ as His disciple. I hope that by this point in your study, the Disciple's Cross is at the very core of your being—that it is a way of life for you. I hope that spending time with the Master, praying in faith, living in the Word, fellowshiping with believers, witnessing to the world, and ministering to others are becoming disciplines you use every day to live in Christ.

If the Disciple's Cross is a part of your life—

- you will know six biblical disciplines of a disciple;
 - you will experience a closer relationship with Christ as you practice the disciplines each day;
 - you will use the Disciple's Cross as the standard to remind yourself and other Christians of the commitments required for being Christ's disciple;
 - you will use the six disciplines to follow the Holy Spirit's direction as you confront problems;
 - you will help other disciples live in Christ and bear fruit for His glory.
- Your goal in discipleship is expressed in 2 Timothy 2:21, in the margin. Grow in all of the disciplines to master life and be prepared for the Master's use. If you develop all of these disciplines, your life will be balanced and fruitful.

Review the above list of ways that knowing the Disciple's Cross can help you as a disciple. Check the ways you are already benefiting from knowing the Disciple's Cross. Then draw a star beside ways you hope to continue growing in your use of the Disciple's Cross.

You learned the six disciplines by using a diagram of a cross. One way to reinforce the fact that you have learned these disciplines is to illustrate them in another form. Think about another item—a car, a tree, a mountain, a building, an ice-cream cone, or another object—you can draw to illustrate the elements of the Disciple's Cross. Perhaps you feel that you do not have artistic ability. Do not worry about how the final product looks; the most important point is to include all of the concepts.



Draw the alternative item you have chosen to illustrate the disciplines. Include the memory verses that go with them. If you need more room, use a blank sheet of paper. When you finish, insert the sheet in your book at this place.

Be prepared to explain your illustration at the Growing Disciples Workshop.

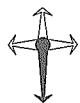
DAILY MASTER
COMMUNICATION
GUIDE



2 TIMOTHY 2

What God said to me:

What I said to God:



Read 2 Timothy 2 during your quiet time and complete the Daily Master Communication Guide in the margin.

WHERE ARE YOU IN YOUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST?

How equipped are you to be Christ's disciple? The Growing Disciples Workshop that follows this study will help you determine the answer. Before you attend the workshop, complete the Discipleship Inventory on pages 139–43 to evaluate your growth in discipleship. The inventory, based on the characteristics of a disciple, can help you determine where you are in your growth as a disciple. Even though the inventory will help you look at yourself in terms of behavior and attitudes, the most important questions you can ask yourself are: *Where am I in my relationship with Christ? How far am I from the lifelong, obedient relationship with Him that I desire? If He desires to transform my values into Kingdom values, have I arrived?*

When you attend the Growing Disciples Workshop, you will learn how to interpret your answers. At this point you may decide that you need to do additional work in certain areas of your relationship with Christ. You will take this inventory again at the end of book 4 to identify the areas in which you have grown.

Congratulations on completing *MasterLife 1: The Disciple's Cross*. I hope that you are beginning to learn what being a follower of Christ means. But the pilgrimage has just begun. I encourage you to study *MasterLife 2: The Disciple's Personality* to continue the journey of your lifelong, obedient relationship with your Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

1. R. A. Torrey, *Why God Used D. L. Moody* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1923), 42.
2. Juan Carlos Ortiz, *Disciple* (Carol Stream, IL: Creation House, 1975), 12–16.

The Disciple's Cross

The Disciple's Cross is the focal point for all you learn in *MasterLife 1: The Disciple's Cross*. The cross provides an instrument for visualizing and understanding your opportunities and responsibilities as a disciple of Christ.

Following are step-by-step instructions for presenting the Disciple's Cross to another person. Each week of this study you learn a portion of the Disciple's Cross and the Scripture that accompanies it. As you learn the cross and review it in the future, you may find it helpful to refer to this step-by-step explanation and to the completed drawing on page 136. Do not attempt to memorize this presentation. You will learn how to present it in your own words. Do not feel overwhelmed by the amount of material involved. You will learn it in weekly segments. By the end of the study you will be able to explain the entire cross and to say all of the verses that accompany it.

To explain the cross to someone, use a blank, unlined sheet of paper to draw the illustration developed here in stages. Instructions to you are in parentheses. The following material is the presentation you make to the other person.

A disciple of Christ is a person who makes Christ the Lord of his or her life. (Quote Luke 9:23 and write the reference and the three commitments in the upper right corner of the page: *deny, cross, follow*.) A disciple's first commitment is to deny yourself. That does not mean to reject your identity but to renounce the self-centered life. To do that, a disciple of Christ learns the following six disciplines of the Christian life.

SPEND TIME WITH THE MASTER

(In the center of the page draw a circle.) The empty circle represents your life. It pictures denying all of self for Christ. You cannot be a disciple of Christ if you are not willing to deny self. If this circle represents your life, Christ should fill the entire circle as you focus on Him. (Write the word *Christ* in the circle.) Christ is to have priority in everything. Life in Christ is Christ living in you.

(Write *John 15:5* under the word *Christ* in the circle and quote the verse from memory.) What can you do without remaining in Christ? Nothing! Christ said that He is the Vine and that we are the branches. The branches are part of the Vine. You are part of Christ. He wants to live His life through you. Is this the kind of life you would like to have?

Luke 9:23

**Deny
Cross
Follow**



In addition to denying yourself, you need to take up your cross. The Disciple's Cross pictures the resources Christ gives us to help us live in Him. (Draw the cross around the circle.)

LIVE IN THE WORD

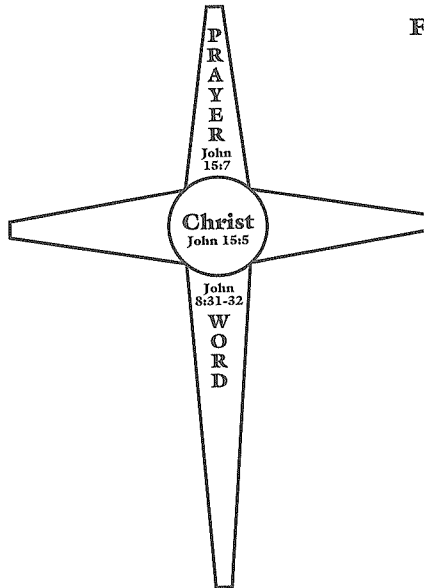
The way to have life in Christ is to have His Word in you. (Write *Word* and *John 8:31-32* on the lower crossbar and quote these verses from memory.) The Word is your food. You cannot grow closer to Christ unless you regularly partake of the Word. You receive the Word in many ways: by listening to someone preach it, by reading it, by studying it, by memorizing it, by meditating on it, and by applying it. Making Christ Lord means that you want to study, meditate on, and apply the Word regularly.

PRAY IN FAITH

Part of life in Christ and of having a relationship with Him is praying in faith. (Write *prayer* and *John 15:7* on the upper crossbar and quote the verse from memory. Point to the words *Christ*, *Word*, and *prayer* as you quote the corresponding parts of the verse.) If you

abide in Christ and His Word abides in you, you can ask what you want, and God will do it. Notice that the vertical bar of the cross, representing the Word and prayer, highlights your relationship with God, the basic ways you communicate with God, and the basic ways He communicates with you.

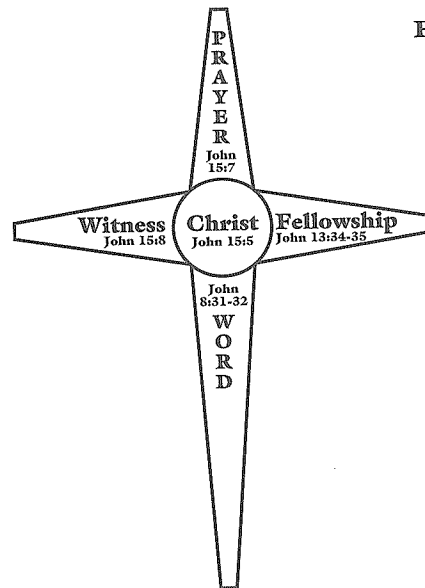
Luke 9:23
Deny
Cross
Follow



your relationship with Him. (Write *witness* and *John 15:8* on the left crossbar and quote the verse from memory.) If you abide in Christ, you eventually bear fruit. Fruit can be the fruit of the Spirit or a new Christian. Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Fruit does not always grow quickly, but it grows continually and bears in season. Fruit bearing is the normal, natural result when you have Christ at the center of your life.

Jesus said the way to show that you are His disciple is to bear much fruit. This includes witnessing. Witnessing is the natural outgrowth of living in Christ. If you are spending time with the Master, living daily in the Word, praying in faith, and fellowshiping with God's people, you naturally share with others the Christ who lives in your heart.

Luke 9:23
Deny
Cross
Follow



FELLOWSHIP WITH BELIEVERS

Life in Christ means that you live in fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. (Write *fellowship* and *John 13:34-35* on the right crossbar and quote these verses from memory.) Jesus said the way to show that you are His disciple is to love one another. God provided the ideal place for you to grow—His church. A church is not a building or an organization, although it uses both of these. A church is a body of baptized believers who have agreed to carry out Christ's ministry in the world. A committed Christian stays in fellowship with a local body of believers in order to grow in Christ. The church is the body of Christ! If you have life in Christ, you realize how important living in His body, the church, is.

WITNESS TO THE WORLD

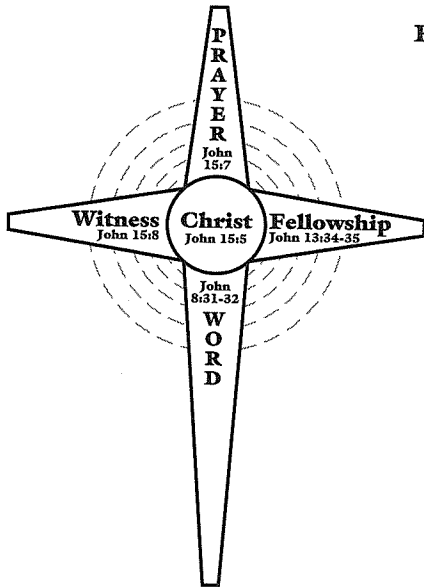
Life in Christ includes witnessing to others. It involves following Him, another commitment of a disciple. Witnessing is sharing with others about Christ and

MINISTER TO OTHERS

As the fruit of the Spirit grows in your life in Christ, you also reach out to others through ministry. You take up your cross in service to others, which is another commitment of a disciple. Cross bearing is voluntary, redemptive service for others.

Look again at the circle in the center of the cross. Your life in Christ should continue to grow and expand. (Make circular broken lines that move out from the center of the circle.)

Luke 9:23
Deny
Cross
Follow



As you grow in Christ, you reach out to others through all kinds of ministry and service. (Add pointed arrows to the ends of the crossbars.) The arrows indicate that your growth in Christ should express itself in ministries. Living in the Word leads to a ministry of teaching or preaching. (Write *ministry of teaching/preaching* below the cross.)

Praying in faith leads to a ministry of worship or intercession. (Write *ministry of worship/intercession* above the cross.)

Fellowshipping with believers leads to a ministry of nurture to other believers. (Write *ministry of nurture* to the right of the cross.)

Witnessing to the world leads to a ministry of evangelism. (Write *ministry of evangelism* to the left of the cross.)

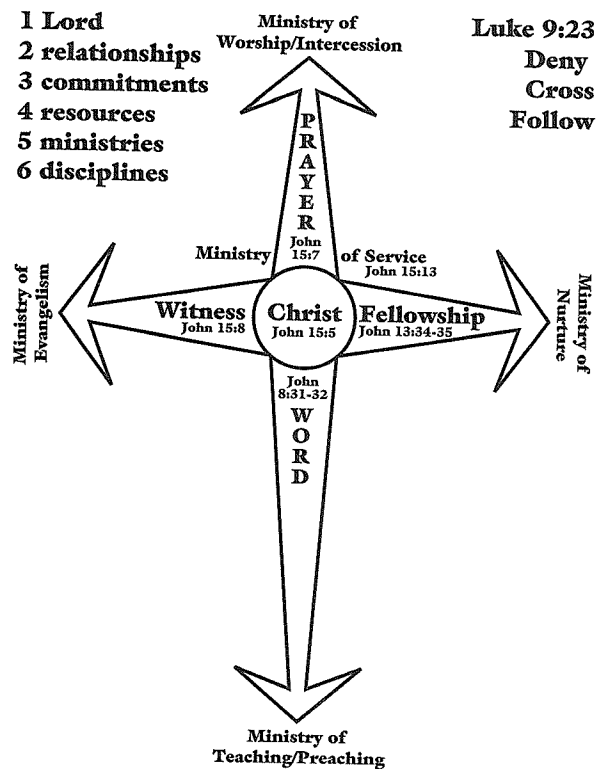
Your witness and your fellowship lead to Christian service to other persons. (Write *ministry of service: John 15:13* above the horizontal bar and quote the verse.) Notice that the horizontal bar of the cross, representing witness and ministry, highlights your relationships with others.

These five ministry areas compose the ministry of a disciple and of Christ's church. The goal of discipleship is expressed in 2 Timothy 2:21: "If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and

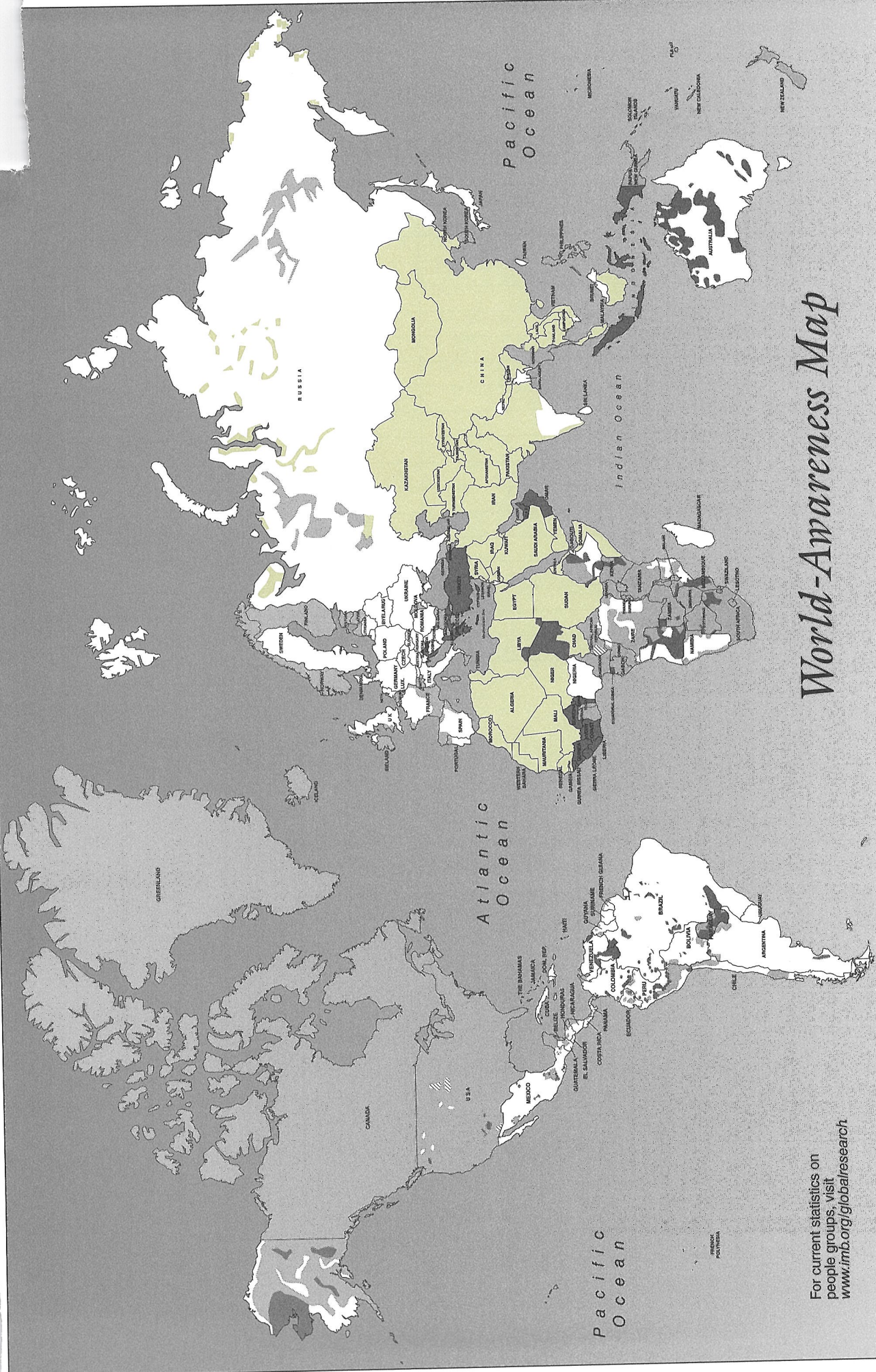
prepared to do any good work." You need to grow in all spiritual disciplines and ministries to master life and to be prepared for the Master's use. If you develop all of these disciplines, your life will be balanced and fruitful.

(As you present the following, write the number and the first word following the number in the upper left corner of the page.) To remember this illustration, notice that you have—

- 1 Lord as the first priority of your life;
- 2 relationships: a vertical relationship with God and horizontal relationships with others;
- 3 commitments: deny self, take up your cross daily, and follow Christ;
- 4 resources to center your life in Christ: the Word, prayer, fellowship, and witness;
- 5 ministries that grow from the four resources: teaching/preaching, worship/intercession, nurture, evangelism, and service;
- 6 disciplines of a disciple: spend time with the Master, live in the Word, pray in faith, fellowship with believers, witness to the world, and minister to others.

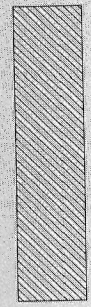


By practicing these biblical principles, you can abide in Christ and can be useful in the Master's service.

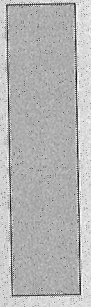


World-Awareness Map

For current statistics on people groups, visit www.imb.org/globalresearch



CHRISTIAN PEOPLE
The majority have made personal professions of faith in Christ.



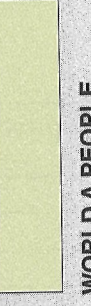
EVANGELIZED PEOPLE
The majority have heard the gospel with such cultural and personal relevance that it results in sufficient understanding to accept Christ by faith or to reject Him.



UNEVANGELIZED PEOPLE
The majority have never heard the gospel with such cultural and personal relevance that it results in sufficient understanding to accept Christ by faith or to reject Him.



UNREACHED PEOPLE
No viable indigenous church movement exists with sufficient strength, resources, and commitment to sustain and ensure the continuous multiplication of churches.



WORLD A PEOPLE
An unreached people the majority of whose members have little or no access to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship Inventory

This Discipleship Inventory¹ measures the functional discipleship level of individuals, groups, and churches. By using the inventory, believers can assess their development by considering 30 characteristics of a New Testament disciple in the categories of attitudes, behavior, relationships, ministry, and doctrine.

Follow these directions to complete the inventory:

- Respond to each statement as honestly as possible. Select an answer that most clearly reflects your life as it is, not as you would like it to be.
- Choose one answer for each statement.
- Note changes in the types of answers from section to section.
- Do not spend too much time on any one question.

You will receive instructions for scoring your inventory at the Growing Disciples Workshop that follows this study.

How true is each of the following statements of you? Choose from these responses:

- 1 = never true 4 = often true**
2 = rarely true 5 = almost always true
3 = sometimes true

1. I strive to live by the Bible's moral and ethical teachings. **1 2 3 4 5**
2. Reading and studying the Bible has made significant changes in the way I live my life. **1 2 3 4 5**
3. My faith shapes how I think and act each day. **1 2 3 4 5**
4. I talk with other persons about my beliefs in Christ as Savior and Lord. **1 2 3 4 5**
5. I take time for periods of prayer or meditation. **1 2 3 4 5**
6. Because God has forgiven me, I respond with a forgiving attitude when others wrong me. **1 2 3 4 5**
7. While interacting with others in everyday contacts, I seek opportunities to speak out about Jesus Christ. **1 2 3 4 5**
8. My neighbors and the persons I work with know that I am a Christian. **1 2 3 4 5**

9. I go out of my way to show love to persons I meet. **1 2 3 4 5**
10. When I realize that I have disobeyed a specific teaching of the Bible, I correct the wrongdoing. **1 2 3 4 5**
11. I pray for God's help when I have needs or problems. **1 2 3 4 5**
12. I share personal feelings and needs with Christian friends. **1 2 3 4 5**
13. I hold a grudge when treated unfairly. **1 2 3 4 5**
14. I devote time to reading and studying the Bible. **1 2 3 4 5**
15. I like to worship and pray with others. **1 2 3 4 5**
16. I use my gifts and talents to serve others. **1 2 3 4 5**
17. When I become aware that I have offended someone, I go to him or her to admit and correct my wrongdoing. **1 2 3 4 5**
18. I pray for the salvation of friends and acquaintances who are not professing Christians. **1 2 3 4 5**
19. I work to remove barriers or problems that develop between me and my friends. **1 2 3 4 5**
20. I feel too inadequate to help others. **1 2 3 4 5**

How often, if ever, do you do each of the following? Choose from these responses:

- 1 = seldom or never 4 = several times a week**
2 = about once a month 5 = once a day or more
3 = about once a week
21. Pray with other Christians, other than during church **1 2 3 4 5**
 22. Participate in a small-group Bible study, other than Sunday School **1 2 3 4 5**
 23. Pray or meditate, other than at church or before meals **1 2 3 4 5**
 24. Memorize verses or passages of the Bible **1 2 3 4 5**
 25. Study the Bible on my own **1 2 3 4 5**
 26. Pray specifically for missions and missionaries **1 2 3 4 5**

Indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Choose from these responses:

1 = definitely disagree 4 = tend to agree
2 = tend to disagree 5 = definitely agree
3 = not sure

27. It is my personal responsibility to share the gospel message with non-Christians in my life. 1 2 3 4 5
28. Once a person is saved, he cannot lose his salvation. 1 2 3 4 5
29. I often accept other Christians' constructive criticism and correction. 1 2 3 4 5
30. I believe that the Holy Spirit is active in my life. 1 2 3 4 5
31. If a person sincerely seeks God, she can obtain eternal life through religions other than Christianity. 1 2 3 4 5
32. I know how to explain the gospel clearly to another person without relying on an evangelistic tract. 1 2 3 4 5
33. A Christian should consider himself accountable to other Christians. 1 2 3 4 5
34. A Christian should regularly find ways to tell others about Jesus. 1 2 3 4 5
35. Salvation is available only through receiving Jesus Christ. 1 2 3 4 5
36. The way I live my Christian life is not others' business. 1 2 3 4 5
37. The Holy Spirit comes into a person the moment she accepts Jesus as Savior. 1 2 3 4 5
38. A literal place called hell exists. 1 2 3 4 5
39. I believe that I have a personal responsibility to help the poor and hungry. 1 2 3 4 5
40. The complete indwelling of the Holy Spirit occurs through an experience that is usually separate and distinct from the conversion experience. 1 2 3 4 5

How many hours during the past month have you done each of the following through church, other organizations, or on your own? Do not count time spent in a paid job. Choose from these responses:

3 = 3-5 hours
1 = 0 hours 4 = 6-9 hours
2 = 1-2 hours 5 = 10 hours or more

41. Donated time helping persons who are poor, hungry, sick, or unable to care for themselves

(don't count family members) 1 2 3 4 5

42. Visited those who have visited my church 1 2 3 4 5
43. Helped friends or neighbors with problems 1 2 3 4 5
44. Been involved in a missions-related ministry or cause (for example, teaching about missions, raising money for missions, missions volunteer work) 1 2 3 4 5
45. Visited persons in the hospital 1 2 3 4 5
46. Given volunteer time at my church to teach, lead, serve on a committee, or help with a program or event 1 2 3 4 5
47. Visited in the homes of Christian friends 1 2 3 4 5
48. Visited the elderly or the homebound 1 2 3 4 5

How true is each of the following statements for you? Choose from these responses:

1 = absolutely false 4 = mostly true
2 = somewhat false 5 = absolutely true
3 = not sure

49. I am open and responsive to Bible teachers in my church. 1 2 3 4 5
50. I readily receive and forgive those who offend me. 1 2 3 4 5
51. I see myself as loved and valued by God. 1 2 3 4 5
52. I express genuine praise and gratitude to God even in the midst of difficult circumstances. 1 2 3 4 5
53. I avoid close relationships with others who hinder the expression of my Christian values and principles. 1 2 3 4 5
54. I am consciously aware that God placed me on earth to contribute to the fulfillment of His plans and purposes. 1 2 3 4 5
55. I recognize that everything I have belongs to God. 1 2 3 4 5
56. My life is filled with stress and anxiety. 1 2 3 4 5
57. I believe that God will always provide my basic needs in life. 1 2 3 4 5
58. I am somewhat hesitant to let others know that I am a Christian. 1 2 3 4 5
59. I avoid situations in which I might be tempted by sexual immorality. 1 2 3 4 5
60. I am presently struggling with an unforgiving

- attitude toward another person. 1 2 3 4 5
61. I feel very inferior to others in my church.
1 2 3 4 5
62. I seek God first in expressing my values
and setting my priorities. 1 2 3 4 5
63. I am able to remain confident of God's love and
provision even during very difficult circumstanc-
es. 1 2 3 4 5
64. I forgive those who offend me even if they
do not apologize. 1 2 3 4 5
65. Being a Christian is a private matter and does
not need to be discussed with others. 1 2 3 4 5

Last year what percentage of your income did you
contribute to each of the following? Choose from
these responses:

- 1 = 0% 4 = 6-9%
2 = 1-2% 5 = 10% and above
3 = 3-5%

66. To my church 1 2 3 4 5
67. To other religious groups or religious
organizations 1 2 3 4 5
68. To charities or social-service organizations
1 2 3 4 5
69. To international missions (through my church
and denomination) 1 2 3 4 5

For the following question choose from these
responses:

- 1 = none 4 = the majority
2 = a few 5 = all
3 = several

70. How many of your closest friends do you
consider to be unbelievers? 1 2 3 4 5

How often have you done each of the following
during the past year? Choose from these
responses:

- 1 = never 4 = 6-9 times
2 = once 5 = 10 times or more
3 = 2-5 times

71. Clearly felt God's presence in my life 1 2 3 4 5
72. Shared with someone how to become a Christian
1 2 3 4 5
73. Invited an unchurched person to attend church,
Bible study, or another evangelistic event
1 2 3 4 5

74. Experienced the Holy Spirit's providing
understanding, guidance, or conviction
of sin 1 2 3 4 5
75. Met with a new Christian to help him grow
spiritually 1 2 3 4 5
76. Told others about God's work in my life
1 2 3 4 5
77. Helped someone pray to receive Christ
1 2 3 4 5
78. Gave a gospel tract or similar literature
to an unbeliever 1 2 3 4 5

Indicate how much you agree or disagree
with each of the following. Choose from
these responses:

- 1 = strongly disagree 4 = agree
2 = disagree 5 = strongly agree
3 = not sure

79. It is very important for every Christian to serve
others. 1 2 3 4 5
80. One day God will hold me accountable for how
I used my time, money, and talents. 1 2 3 4 5
81. All Christians are to follow Bible teachings.
1 2 3 4 5
82. The Bible is the authoritative source of wisdom
for daily living. 1 2 3 4 5
83. A Christian must learn to deny herself to serve
Christ effectively. 1 2 3 4 5
84. I have a hard time accepting myself. 1 2 3 4 5
85. I have identified my primary spiritual gift.
1 2 3 4 5
86. Following death, an unbeliever goes to a place
called hell. 1 2 3 4 5
87. Jesus' teachings are binding for the modern
Christian. 1 2 3 4 5
88. Giving time to a specific ministry in the church
is necessary for a Christian's spiritual welfare.
1 2 3 4 5
89. Regardless of my circumstances, I believe
God always keeps His promises. 1 2 3 4 5
90. Without the death of Jesus, salvation would
not be possible. 1 2 3 4 5
91. The Bible is a completely reliable revelation
from God. 1 2 3 4 5

Indicate how well-trained and prepared you
believe you are in the following areas. Choose

from these responses:

- 1 = not trained at all 4 = adequately
2 = somewhat trained trained
3 = average 5 = well-trained

92. Presenting the plan of salvation 1 2 3 4 5
93. Individually following up or helping a new
Christian grow and develop spiritually 1 2 3 4 5
94. Leading someone to pray to receive Christ
1 2 3 4 5
95. Visiting a prospect for my church 1 2 3 4 5
96. Leading a small-group Bible study 1 2 3 4 5
97. Sharing my personal testimony about
how I became a Christian 1 2 3 4 5

How often during the past two or three years
have you done each of the following? Choose
from these responses:

- 1 = never 4 = weekly
2 = a few times 5 = daily
3 = monthly

98. Read the Bible by myself 1 2 3 4 5
99. Consciously put into practice the teachings
of the Bible 1 2 3 4 5
100. Prayed by myself 1 2 3 4 5
101. Provided help to needy persons in my town
or city 1 2 3 4 5
102. Read and studied about the Christian faith
1 2 3 4 5
103. Participated in Bible studies, religious programs,
or groups outside my church 1 2 3 4 5
104. Made the necessary changes when I realized, as
a result of exposure to the Bible, that an aspect
of my life was not right 1 2 3 4 5
105. Shared an insight, idea, principle, or guideline
from the Bible with others 1 2 3 4 5
106. Experienced the care, love, and support of other
persons in a church 1 2 3 4 5
107. Directly tried to encourage someone to believe
in Jesus Christ 1 2 3 4 5
108. Intentionally spent time building friendships
with non-Christians 1 2 3 4 5

How true is each of these statements for you?

Choose from these responses:

- 1 = never true 4 = often true
2 = rarely true 5 = almost always true
3 = sometimes true

109. I feel God's presence in my relationships
with other persons. 1 2 3 4 5
110. I treat persons of the other gender in a pure
and holy manner. 1 2 3 4 5
111. When convicted of sin in my life, I readily
confess it to God as sin. 1 2 3 4 5
112. Through prayer I seek to discern God's
will for my life. 1 2 3 4 5
113. I readily forgive others because of my under-
standing that God has forgiven me. 1 2 3 4 5
114. I help others with their religious questions
and struggles. 1 2 3 4 5
115. I have learned through my faith and the
Scriptures how to sacrifice for the good
of others. 1 2 3 4 5
116. I share my faults and weaknesses with others
whom I consider to be close to me. 1 2 3 4 5
117. I am generally the same person in private
that I am in public. 1 2 3 4 5
118. When God makes me aware of His specific will
for me in an area of my life, I follow His lead-
ing. 1 2 3 4 5
119. I regularly find myself choosing God's way
over my way in specific instances. 1 2 3 4 5
120. I am honest in my dealings with others.
1 2 3 4 5
121. I regularly pray for my church's ministry.
1 2 3 4 5

How often do you attend the following activities?
Choose from these responses:

- 1 = never 4 = weekly
2 = a few times 5 = more than once a week
3 = monthly

122. Worship services at my church 1 2 3 4 5
123. Sunday School class 1 2 3 4 5
124. Bible studies other than Sunday School
1 2 3 4 5
125. Prayer groups or prayer meetings 1 2 3 4 5

Indicate how much you agree or disagree with
each of the following statements. Choose from
these responses:

- 3 = not sure
1 = definitely disagree 4 = tend to agree
2 = tend to disagree 5 = definitely agree

126. God fulfills His plan primarily through believers
within a local-church context. 1 2 3 4 5